the SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
SHAKERITE
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Volume 61 • November 1, 1990 • Issue 2

Shaker comedian wins local competition PAGE 9

'Sons of Africa' seek official sanctioning

BY JEREMY KAHN AND
AHMAD ATWAN
Co-Editor-In-Chief and Co-News-Editor

Sons of Africa, a newly formed organization dedicated to positive education, unity among African Americans and solving racial problems within the community, has begun meeting on Mondays and Wednesday in the basement, while seeking proper sanctioning from the administration.

The group, which was founded by senior Alvin Watkins, juniors Mike Simmons and Carl James, and sophomore Larry Braddell, believes proper education is necessary for the understanding and appreciation of all races.

"[SOA] is mainly for education. We want to become sanctioned and act as a positive force for unity and against violence," junior Carl James said.

According to Principal Jack Rumbaugh, SOA must follow certain school regulations to become a sanctioned group. Among these requirements are a faculty sponsor and open membership to all races, sexes, and ages. Members of a newly sanctioned group are also not allowed to wear clothing which identifies them with that group and sets them apart from the school community.

SOA is currently working towards compliance with the school regulations and reaching their goal of becoming a sanctioned group.

"We are in the process of finding a sponsor so that we can become an official group," Simmons said.

Social studies teacher Reuben Henderson was approached by SOA as a possible sponsor. Although he believes in the goals of the group, Henderson said he turned down the position due to a lack of free time.

"If [SOA] is expending their energy on self-awareness, they will change themselves and their futures forever," Henderson said.

Rumbaugh also believes that SOA is a group that could be beneficial to both the students and the school.

"If their goal is truly to work with African American students on better grades and attendance, then I think that this is a worthwhile group." Rumbaugh said.

According to Braddell, one of the primary goals of SOA is to bring about unity among African Americans.

"I believe people are people. We are all legos. The black legos have a problem within themselves, and they don't fit in with the other legos. We need to get the black people unified before they can work with all the other legos to build something," Braddell said.

At their meetings, the group has been working toward better race relations and unity among African Americans by discussing current issues of racism, education, and black-on-black violence, and proposing solutions to these problems within the school and community.

"We want to take steps to end violence in the school," junior SOA member Mike White said.

White added that SOA offered African Americans an alternative to gangs and other negative influences.

Students have joined SOA for various reasons. The group was originally restricted to African American males, but it has now been opened up to African American females. According to group leaders, between 30 and 40 students have begun regularly attending meetings.

"I think the things [SOA] is discussing are interesting and that if we just put our heads together we can do something about what's going on, because there are definite problems here at Shaker," SOA member freshman Khadija Woods said.

Some specific issues talked about at recent meetings included changes in the curriculum of many social studies courses at the high school, the reparation of African Americans for jobs lost due to slavery and racial prejudices, and an episode of "Donahue" that dealt with racism in America.

Group leaders hope that through SOA, African Americans will gain a better sense of identity so that they can work positively within the school and the community like other sanctioned organizations.

SOA SEEKS UNITY AND OFFICIAL RECOGNITION. The group Sons of Africa at one of their recent basement meetings. The group has been discussing the issues of black unity and racial integration within the district while seeking official sanctioning form the administration. *Photo by Jon Woods*

Graduation to be held at high school

BY TANIA MENNESSE
Staff Reporter

Senior commencement will be held on the campus of the school after a 34 year break in the tradition.

According to Principal Jack Rumbaugh, the return to tradition "is rich and has great significance and meaning to the community."

The surroundings of the high school are beautiful, and if graduation is held during the afternoon of Sat., June 15, the entire faculty will be able to celebrate with the students, Rumbaugh said.

"Graduation will become a day of celebration, not just a two hour block of time squeezed into the evening," said Rumbaugh. "The entire faculty in cap and gown with the students, in a procession that would start from the administration building would give the ceremony class and would provide our seniors with a warm and memorable graduation."

In the event of rain the ceremony would be held in the large auditorium rather than the football stadium. Each graduate would be allowed two or three tickets for the auditorium, and other relatives would view the proceedings in the gyms on closed circuit television.

Many students have been misled by rumors about the administration's plans for graduation. Mohney believed the senior class meeting set for Oct. 30, would clear up the confusion.

"I think that the use of the football field is just a way of saving money which the Shaker schools are too cheap to spring for," senior William Knight said.

Graduation on campus will cost as much or more than the Front Row, Rumbaugh said. To control crowds and parking trouble, the ceremony will have to be coordinated between the city and the school. Rumbaugh said a great deal of money and time will go into fixing up the bleachers, decorating the stadium, putting in a new sound system and planning a reception for after the ceremony.

"Last year at graduation, I just walked across the Front Row stage in my gown and picked up my fake diploma. There was no feeling of tradition or ceremony in it. Outside, at the school itself, it will have more meaning," said class of '90 alumnus Rick Smith.

While many seniors are not concerned with the location of graduation, they are troubled that they were not the ones to make the decision.

"It's our graduation, something we've worked twelve years for and will remember for the rest of our lives. It should be our decision, as seniors to decide where it is, not the school board's," said senior Becca Boatright.

Rumbaugh said that the location of graduation ceremonies is not the students' decision.

"Students have a right to their opinions and we will listen to them, but the decision will be resolved in Dr. Freeman's office with my input and the school board's. Students have never had a say in where graduation is held or for that matter what music is played," Rumbaugh said. "Graduation in 1957 was moved from the campus to Severance Hall and then to the Front Row, and it has always been a purely administrative decision."

the campus to Severance Hall and then to the Front Row and it has always been a purely administrative decision."

Dreams PAGE 6 / Fall Flicks PAGE 8 / Men's Soccer PAGE 12

Debate focuses on parent-teacher conferences

BY JEREMY PARIS
Staff Reporter

The faculty committe on community relations has begun discussion of reinstituting parent-teacher conferences.

Dialogue has centered around the benefits of conferences and the obstacles which prevent them.

"We used to have conferences, but we didn't get the turnout, " said health teacher Hubert McIntyre, who feels that parental involvement is necessary.

"There is no doubt that it is essential," McIntyre said. "I haven't talked to any teacher who did not feel that the more involved parents are, the better off everyone is going to be."

According to McIntyre, the purpose of parent-teacher conferences is to make parents aware of behavior and academic problems occuring at school. If the parents are more aware, they can become more involved in education.

> *"...I haven't talked to any teacher who did not feel that the more involved parents are the better off everyone is going to be."*
> –HUBERT MCINTYRE

Math teacher Dennis Hogue said it is often the parents of troubled students who are not in close contact with the school and the teachers. These parents are not aware of their children's difficulties.

"I think that so often we do not involve those parents we would like to involve," Assistant Principal Robert Mohney said. "We need to encourage those parents."

Superintendent Mark Freeman believes that conferences improve the communication between parents, teachers and students.

Mohney said the administration would definitely support parent-teacher conferences, and they are discussing the possibility of a day when the conferences could be arranged.

"We would love to figure out some way to set a schedule for parents to come in here," said government teacher Jerry Graham, the head of the community relations committee. "Everybody likes the idea, but there are some problems."

Logistics is one of the difficulties Graham refers to. He said there is a shortage of parking space and that scheduling would be difficult.

Graham also said some parents work, and it would be difficult for them to attend during school hours. The conferences cannot be scheduled after school when working parents might be able to come because the teachers' contract requires the hours 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We can't go beyond conference time, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., because it might upset the balance between the [Shaker Heights Teachers Association] and the administration," Hogue said.

Despite the lack of a set conference day, some teachers have managed to keep parents involved and have kept in personal contact with them.

"Students don't think that teachers will go that extra mile [to personally contact parents]," McIntyre said, "I will call parents and often times I will stop by."

"If kids don't do work, I'm on the horn right away," said Hogue.

Latin teachers win award for teaching excellency

THE BRIEFS

Latin teachers Jerome Burke and Jane Elbrecht were awarded the Hildesheim Award for excellency in teaching by the Ohio Classical Conference this October.

The award is an exact replica of an ancient silver vase dated from the time of the Roman Emperor Augustus. It was originated in Oberlin college in 1925 and circulated throughout Ohio ever since. Shaker possessed it previously in 1930, 1931 and 1971.

The voting committee seemed most impressed by the fictional newspapers which the Latin students made the previous year and the high National Latin Exam scores, according to Elbrecht.

GONE FISHIN'

About 75 people signed up for the newly formed fishing club.

"We will try to set up fishing trips to lakes in the area, junior member Adam Axler said.

GERMAN STUDENTS VISIT SHAKER

Twenty two students from Goslar, Germany, arrived in Shaker on Oct. 15 as part of the Goslar-Shaker student exchange program.

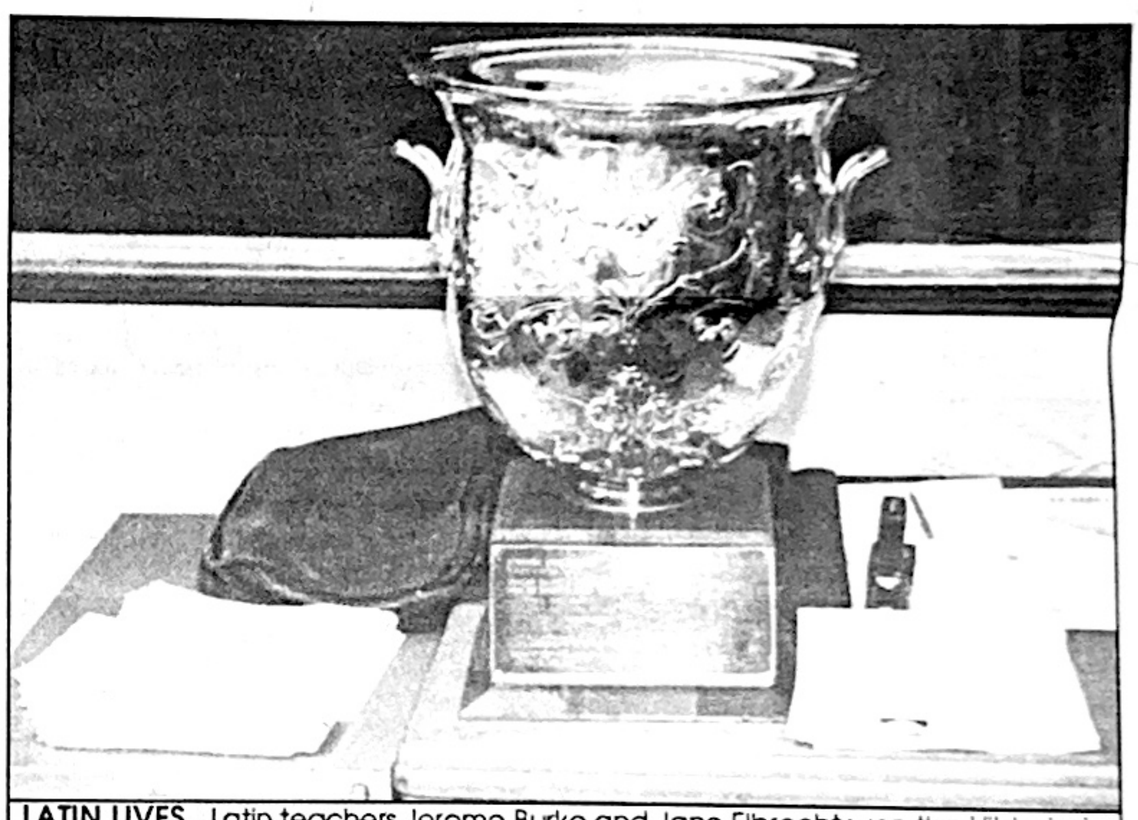
The students were honored on Tuesday by a welcome assembly which included the singing of both national anthems and speeches by Jon Woods, president of the German Club, and principal Jack Rumbaugh.

The exchange program was started, according to German teacher Linda Mayer, in order "to get Shaker kids to realize that German is an interesting language to use and speak."

STOKES FUNNIEST STUDENT

Senior Randy Stokes won the title of Cleveland's funniest high school student on Oct. 28 at the Improv comedy club.

As a result, he will perform in L..A. at the original Improv Comedy Club.



LATIN LIVES. Latin teachers Jerome Burke and Jane Elbrecht won the Hildesheim Award for excellency in teaching by the Ohio Classical Conference this October.
Photo by Christian Hamerstone

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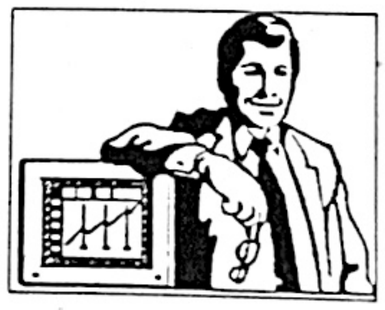
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11 seniors recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists

BY LAURIE GREEN
Staff Reporter

Eleven seniors qualified for the 1991 National Merit Scholarship Program, and one qualified for the National Achievement program for Outstanding Negro Students. Ten students were recognized as commended scholars.

Semifinalists have the opportunity to advance and become finalists. They can then receive scholarships for college. The names of the commended students are sent to various colleges to help with their admission.

The 11 semifinalists in the Merit Scholarship Competition include David Conner, Brian Eppig, Padma Ghatage, Grant Gibson, Benjamin Leis, Joshua Randall, Ethan Skerry, Daniel Stern, Diana Williams, James Woodring, and Rachel Zamore. Kimberly Porter is a semifinalist in the Achievement Scholarship Competition.

Juniors who score high on the PSAT qualify for these programs. After becoming a semifinalist, students must fill out an application similar to a college application in order to be considered for a scholarship. An essay and counselor recommendation are also required. Academic history, awards and activities are also taken into consideration. Students must subsequently take the SAT to confirm their PSAT scores.

According to guidance department head, Jeff Lewis, 99 percent of students who qualify for these programs pursue the process.

"This year all the semifinalists are following through, and all the applications are in," Lewis said.

The Achievement Program for Outstanding Negro Students was started in 1964. It provides minorities with opportunities for scholarship money and programs.

"I think it is a great way to recognize a multi-cultural school," said Lewis.

The commended scholars honored by the National Merit Scholarship Program are Bryce Dakin, Valerie Fazekas, Sanjay Garuda, Daniel Lewis, Megan Mayhugh, Aaron Millstone, and James Wolf.

GO YOU MIGHTY RAIDERS. Tisha Norman and Melissa Collins, varsity members of the cheerleading squad, will perform in the Lord Mayor of Westminster's New Year's Day Parade in London, England. They were chosen to perform after trying out for the Universal Cheerleading Association's All Stars cheerleading team while attending UCA's cheerleading camp at Kent State. "We make up the top 10 percent of 10,000 girls who attended UCA camp," Norman said.
Photo by Jon Woods

Proficiency tests to be administered to class of '94

BY BLANE SIMS
Copy Editor

The Class of '94 is the first required to pass newly mandated proficiency tests which have caused controversy among district administrators.

Several administrators have sighted the tests, which measure competency in reading, writing, math and citizenship at the ninth and twelfth grade levels as being unnecessary and unfair.

Superintendent Mark Freeman says the tests will not benefit the students who they were designed to help.

"Those students who are having difficulty in school are already aware of it," Freeman said. "Proficiency testing will not help them, in fact, it will probably damage them."

According to the state department of education, the tests will insure minimum competency of all high school graduates.

Many freshman said the only thing they don't like about taking proficiency tests is the time testing will take away from their classes.

"[The tests] aren't necessary. They're just another thing students have to worry about. We have enough to worry about with homework and everything," Freshman Jason Stenta said.

Most administrators say the tests themselves are not any major concern for Shaker students.

"They're no big deal. Most Shaker kids will meet and exceed the state standards. It's really much ado about nothing," said Principal Jack Rumbaugh.

Scores on the proficiency tests will be part of what determines which of four degrees graduates of the Class of '94 will receive. According to state law, anyone who graduates after July 1, 1993, will receive one of the following:

•Certificate of Attendance–will be given to students who complete four years of high school, but fail the proficiency tests.

•Diploma of Basic Competency–will be given to students who only pass the ninth-grade proficiency tests.

•Diploma with Distinction–will be given to students who pass both the ninth-grade and 12th-grade proficiency tests.

•Diploma with Commendation–will be given to students who pass the ninth-grade and 12-grade proficiency tests and complete other state requirements, which at press time have not yet been determined.

According to Freeman, no mention of a student's diploma will be made at graduation ceremonies.

"We have absolutely no intentions of differentiating between the diplomas at commencement," Freeman said. "We will only make any changes required by law."

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School lacks facilities to hold graduation

THE RITE IDEA

The decision made by the school board to hold senior commencement at the high school overlooks the fact that the high school's facilities are not prepared to handle a graduation ceremony.

The condition of the stadium is definitely not up to par with those at the Front Row Theatre. There are more seats in the high school stadium, but who would rather sit on a crumbling paint bench rather than a cushioned and relaxing seat? The bleachers must be repainted, along with the installation of a new sound system and a coordination between the city and the school to allow for extra parking. All this work will take extra time and money which may be used toward better purposes.

The high school grounds would be perfect scenery if the weather were nice. However, Cleveland's weather is very hard to predict; just a small drizzle could change the location of the ceremony. If it does rain, commencement will be held in the large auditorium. The class of '91 barely fits into the large auditorium, let alone their friends and family. In order to compensate for the lack of seats, the graduating ceremony will be broadcast by closed circuit TV to the gym. The graduates will be allowed two tickets to the auditorium and other relatives and friends will have to watch the ceremony on TV. Watching the graduation ceremony on TV is the most impersonal way to watch a grandchild or friend graduate, even worse than watching a home video of the ceremony.

If the problem of money were an issue, the movement of commencement from the Front Row Theatre might make sense. However, having graduation on campus will cost just as much, if not more than the Front Row would, according to principal Jack Rumbaugh.

The administration is taking a big risk by deciding to hold graduation at the high school. They are gambling with the forces of mother nature and adding extra money and time into an unnecessary idea.

SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY HERB ASCHERMAN

Article ignores differences in Middle East, barricades cause contoversy, soccer team's coverage missing

THE LETTERS

To the Editor,

In the article "Middle East situation paralleled to Hitler's invasion of Poland," Joel VanArsdale drew a comparison between Hitler's invasion of Poland and Hussein's invasion of Kuwait. Though this comparison is not without merit, it ignores some fundamental differences.

Although the methods of Iraq's lightening attack on Kuwait were similar to Germany's blitzkrieg attack on Poland, the tenor of Hussein's acts were closer to Germany's annexation of Austria. Like Hitler, Hussein claimed that Kuwait was actually part of Iraq. Both tried to add legitimacy to their actions through the guise of liberating an oppressed people.

In an attempt to appease Hitler, Britain and France allowed him to gobble up Austria unchecked. However, the world, did not ignore the enormity of Hussein's act. If Hussein had any dreams of building an empire similar to Hitler's, they are shattered from the world's open resistance.

The article claims that the United States has backed Hussein into a corner. It is Hussein who has backed himself into the corner by foolishly believing that his aggression would go unchecked. It is Hussein who began the crisis in the Gulf. It is Hussein who deserves the blame if war is the result.

The attack on worshippers at the Western Wall in Jerusalem is almost surely an attempt to draw attention away from Iraq and direct it toward Israel. The United Nations may vote to condemn Israel for its lack of constraint. However, the U.N. must remember that it recently condemned Iraq for the invasion of Kuwait. The world must not be fooled into focusing on Israel and ignoring the real villain, Iraq.

Joshua Randall, Senior

To the Editor,

I have lived in Shaker on Avalon Road, one of the streets with the controversial barricades on it, all my life. My parents were members of the committee that was granted permission to have the traffic barricades erected. They counted cars that sped up and down Avalon, Ingelside and Scottsdale Roads. The barricades, put up in 1978, (not in the 60's as the previous Shakerite stated), decreased the number of cars on Avalon Road alone by over 50 percent from 5500 cars per day.

Having lived on this street for 15 years and being directly affected by the barricade conflict, I know that in no way were the barricades created as a divider between Cleveland and Shaker. They were put up as a way of keeping the streets safe for everyone. Councilman Pattons's claim that Shaker is an apartheid is unreasonable, immature and completely uncalled for. How he can compare the situation in South Africa to Shaker's safety measures is beyond me.

As a member of S.G.O.R.R., I believe in complete racial equality. I also believe that I should not have to worry about crossing my street for fear of being hit by a speeding car.

Nicole Strachan, Sophomore

To the Editor,

I think Shaker Heights High School should have a lot more programs than already provided. For example I believe there should be vocational programs at Shaker. Most people would like vocational programs here, because some people have to leave school or go to other schools for vocational programs. I also think we should have a nursery for pregnant students or those students who already have babies. Some students cannot attend school or are absent a lot because they do not have any one to take care of the baby and they cannot afford child care. If they had child care at the school then they could check on their child while still attending school. There are a lot of other problems in this school, but I feel that these are of importance.

Bridgette Collins, Sophomore

To the Editor,

The sports world is very complex and hard to understand. All so-called sports experts seem to know the most, but in reality have never played a sport in their life. The sports editor of the Shakerite wrote a very disturbing article last issue about many sports including wrestling. Wrestling is more than "just rolling around on a mat"; it includes vigorous training and conditioning, not to mention the blood, sweat and tears. Wrestling doesn't end after practice either. You must live and breathe wrestling. It can become very hard when you must lose weight or you are not allowed to eat at all. However, this teaches you discipline which you can use for the rest of your life.

The sports editor claims to be an expert, even though he has never participated in wrestling. From now on I suggest the sports editor stick to sports writing.

William Knight, Senior

To the Editor,

As a member of the soccer team, I am outraged about the lack of publicity that our team has received from the Shakerite. In the Oct. 5 issue, the girls soccer team is publicized for "being winless in seven games", while the guys team is unmentioned, though we haven't lost a game yet. I am not saying that you should not have the girls soccer team in the paper, but there is no reason why we should be neglected for doing nothing but winning.

The soccer team is 13-1-6, which is the best record ever in Shaker's history. We have set the Shaker record for the most shutouts in Shaker history. We have won our league, with big wins over Chagrin and University School, which gave us a ranking in the top three for the state tournament.

Throughout all my years at Shaker, the soccer team always seems to lose out in publicity to football or, in this case, the girls soccer team, even when we are the ones winning. The students of Shaker deserve to read about a winning team, not a losing one.

Chris Svec, Senior

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Germany... Unified but not one

BY RAMIN PIROUZ
Staff Reporter

As I was walking down Friedrich Engels Strasse on a Sunday evening in a small East German town, it occurred to me the reunification of Germany was not the luxurious transformation of a closed bleak society to a western paradise that I imagined it to be.

It was the summer of '90 and the first summer of the decade. I was witnessing the rebirth of a unified country. Though it is a unified country, it will take years before the two cultures gel into one life-style.

From the minute I crossed the East-West German border it was obvious that I was in a different society. The farmland I crossed in order to reach this small East German town shocked me. It was neat, it was silent and it was bleakly unpopulated. It was as if even the birds were afraid to speak out.

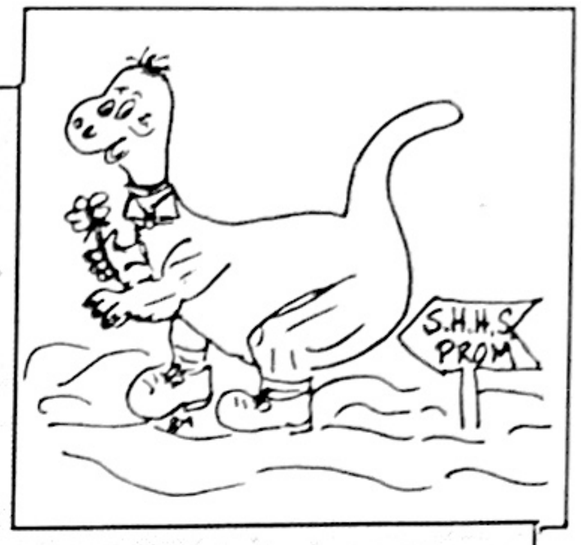
When I entered this little town I expected laughter, I expected joy, I expected excitement. Instead there were whispers, stares, and an occasional clash of beer mugs. I noticed a child riding a statue of a stone horse on a big street. He was content and he was silent. I could only imagine what it must have been like before the wall tumbled.

I looked in the shop windows lining the street and saw only bare necessities. There was, however, plenty of beer. Milk, bread, some canned peas and fruits and butter rested on the white washed shelves. There were no bananas and no ketchup. If westernization was in effect, I could only wonder what it must have been like before.

When I left this small town in East Germany and returned on the autobahn to the West German town of Gottingen, the makeshift East German cars reminded me of that small town I had left behind. I was cruising at an even 100 miles per hour in my Ford Fiesta. To my right were little East German Trabants putt putting away at 60 with the pedal to the metal, polluting the air with brown smoke. To my left were the West German made Mercedes gliding at 160 leaving me and the Trabants swaying in the wake of their currents.

From now on there is no East and West. Germany is simply one. Yet it was inspiring to see other facets than the huge celebrations in Berlin and to get a taste of one small town and to see that the German societies will take years to mold into one.

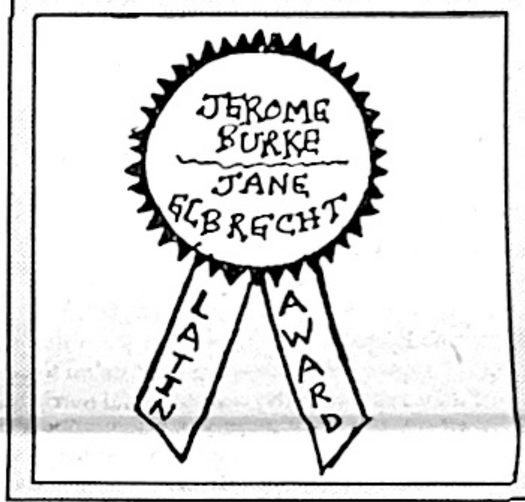
CHEERS AND JEERS



CHEERS- to math teacher Alan Siebert's homeroom. They sponsored a bake sale for the United Way drive and raised $232.

JEERS- to those teachers who talk throughout a test and cause students to lose their concentration.

CHEERS- to Latin teachers Jerome Burke and Jane Elbrecht for winning the Hildesheim Award for excellency in the Latin program. The award was given at Oberlin College.



JEERS- to the parking situation at the high school. Nobody should have to wake up four hours earlier just to get a decent parking spot.

CHEERS- to the decision to move prom from the Crawford Auto Museum to the Natural History Museum due to renovations. Now you can dance away the night with your prehistoric ancestors.

JEERS- to the people who stick their gum underneath the railings, so you can't walk up the stairs without sticking your hand in it.

CHEERS- to the first day of November, 1990. Just think, there will never be another, so make this the best possible!

JEERS- to the 23 minute lunch period. (Did you actually think that the Shakerite staff could produce an issue without mentioning this?)

United Way drive lacks creativity, success

BY ALISA WARSHAY
Staff Reporter

United Way. It seems every year it is the same old thing. Homeroom for a week, a little yellow envelope travels around the room with a few tossed coins in it. And of course the suspense of not knowing who will win the pizza party.

This year's drive raised $2485.78, a long way off from the $5 per person goal. We did surpass last year's total, however, which is certainly a step in the right direction. It is quite obvious by the mere fact that we missed our goal that the present way of running the drive is ineffective. We must implement "plan B".

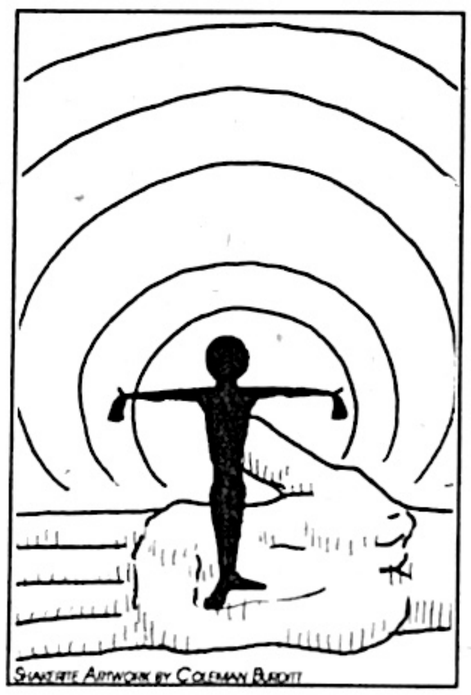
Assuring a successful drive includes careful planning. The United Way conducts a student care day which provides students with creative workshops explaining how to run a campaign and how to implement fund-raising ideas. This year's workshops were held on Oct. 2. Out of the 400 representatives from 80 area schools, Shaker did not even send one person. If we are to run a productive drive we must take advantage of these opportunities.

Preparations should also begin sooner if the drive is to be successful. Committees with specific responsibilities should be designated, and a realistic goal should be set. Maybe $5 a person was too ambitious. If the goal is lowered to one that is more achievable, then when it is reached, it can be raised yearly.

Logistics must be considered as well. When and for how long will the drive take place? It is imperative that the drive is exclusive. It must not have to compete with the AFS carnation sale or any other similar event. The national United Way Campaign lasts from the beginning of September through the end of November. The school's drive would certainly be more successful if it lasted longer than a week.

Publicity and creativity are two of the most important aspects in planning a good fund-raiser. The drive must be highly publicized throughout the school. Announcements and signs informing students when the drive begins and ends are essential. Equally important is publicizing the goal for the school and the goal for the individual student. The same should apply to daily progress. A visual display, such as a giant thermometer in the cafeteria, would be very helpful in keeping students informed.

Informing students what the United Way is and what the money raised will benefit is mandatory for a successful campaign. Most students do not know that the United Way provides monetary aid to more than 150 agencies in the Cleveland area, five of which are located in Beachwood and Shaker Heights. The United Way helped 5625 residents in these two communities last year.


SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY COLEMAN BABOTT

Being familiar with the campaign slogan of United Way is also important. What's the use of a slogan if no one knows it? A slogan is used to attract publicity, this year's was "Keep up the Good Work."

A good way of informing students about United Way is to have an assembly, similar to those at elementary schools each year. After all, a high school student is potentially capable of helping the United Way a lot more than an elementary school student.

The final and possibly most important element of a drive is creativity. This aspect of the drive is what gives it life, spark and zest. Since many students are anti-homeroom, the little yellow envelope might be circulated in English classes during a portion of the drive. United Way pins could be given as an incentive to those who donate.

Giving pins cannot be the only method of collecting, though. First, it's very uncreative, and secondly it yields to the stereotype that all Shaker students have money at their disposal at all times. This simply isn't true. When people do not know what their money is being used for they are less likely to donate. Students who feed more money into vending machines rather than to United Way cannot really be blamed. At least when they give money to the machine they know where the money is going.

Many other area high schools have extensive campaigns filled with lots of innovative FUNd-raising activities. At Mayfield High School, the United Way committee sponsored a dance from which the proceeds went towards achieving their goal. The D.J. donated his services toward a worthy cause. At Beachwood High School, a limousine for Homecoming was raffled off. Programs such as these allow for a good time for a good cause.

A volleyball tournament could be sponsored by the Student Council's United Way committee. The entry fee would go towards achieving our goal. Out of all the pizza money, the school's clubs raise, some could be donated to the United Way drive. Perhaps the advertising jingle could be, "Pizza, Pizza, buy it today, the money goes to the United Way." A teacher-slave auction could be held, you could get back at that teacher who gave you a detention for last Tuesday and be donating money to United Way at the same time. A talent show whose ticket proceeds would be given to United Way could be sponsored. With creativity, the options are endless.

The purpose of the United Way drive is not just to say that we had one. The purpose is to raise money for service organizations that give help to those who need it, whether they are the homeless, drug addicts or senior citizens. Another purpose is to foster a sense of obligation to others. With good planning, publicity and creativity the drive will accomplish more than that. It will instill in students the idea that giving to others is both fulfilling and fun and is a reward in itself.

Dreams not always Fairy Tales, nightmares terrorize many

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN
Staff Reporter

You wake up, startled and upright, sweat forming at your brow. Was it real, or was it just *a nightmare*?

A nightmare is defined as a dream arousing feelings of intense, inescapable fear, horror and distress. It can be caused by tension or even triggered by horror movies or books.

Junior Jeff Stear recalls a nightmare he had after reading *Helter Skelter*, a book about the Charles Manson cult killings.

"I was sitting on my bed and a group of people in black cloaks were surrounding me. They were all holding knives, staring at me...," he explains.

Junior Amy Selden remembers a nightmare she had after watching a National Geographic special about polar bears.

"I was playing outside in the snow and looked up and saw two polar bears coming around the corner. I ran to my dad, who was outside shoveling the driveway but he disappeared. I ran for my back door, but it was locked. So I started pounding and screaming as hard as I could, but I wasn't making any noise," she explains. "I woke up looking around frantically, thinking [the nightmare] was real, but then I saw I was in my room."

Freshman Sarah Hill remembers having a similar animal nightmare.

"Some guy went to take out the garbage. There were all these jars of honey around the garbage and bees swarming around. The guy was stung to death, but then he came back to life and I was playing tennis with him. Then he dropped dead on the court," Hill said.

Getting stressed about school can also cause nightmares. Junior Cathy Simon says she has a lot of nightmares about not turning in homework on time. She also has nightmares when she is on vacation in which she dreams she has to wake up and go to school.

"Nightmares are anxiety dreams," said psychology teacher Baird Wiehe. "They're usually based on fears or exaggerations of a situation or emotion," he said.

Freud interpreted nightmares to be releases of anxieties, but they can also be symbolic of who you are and who the people around you are.

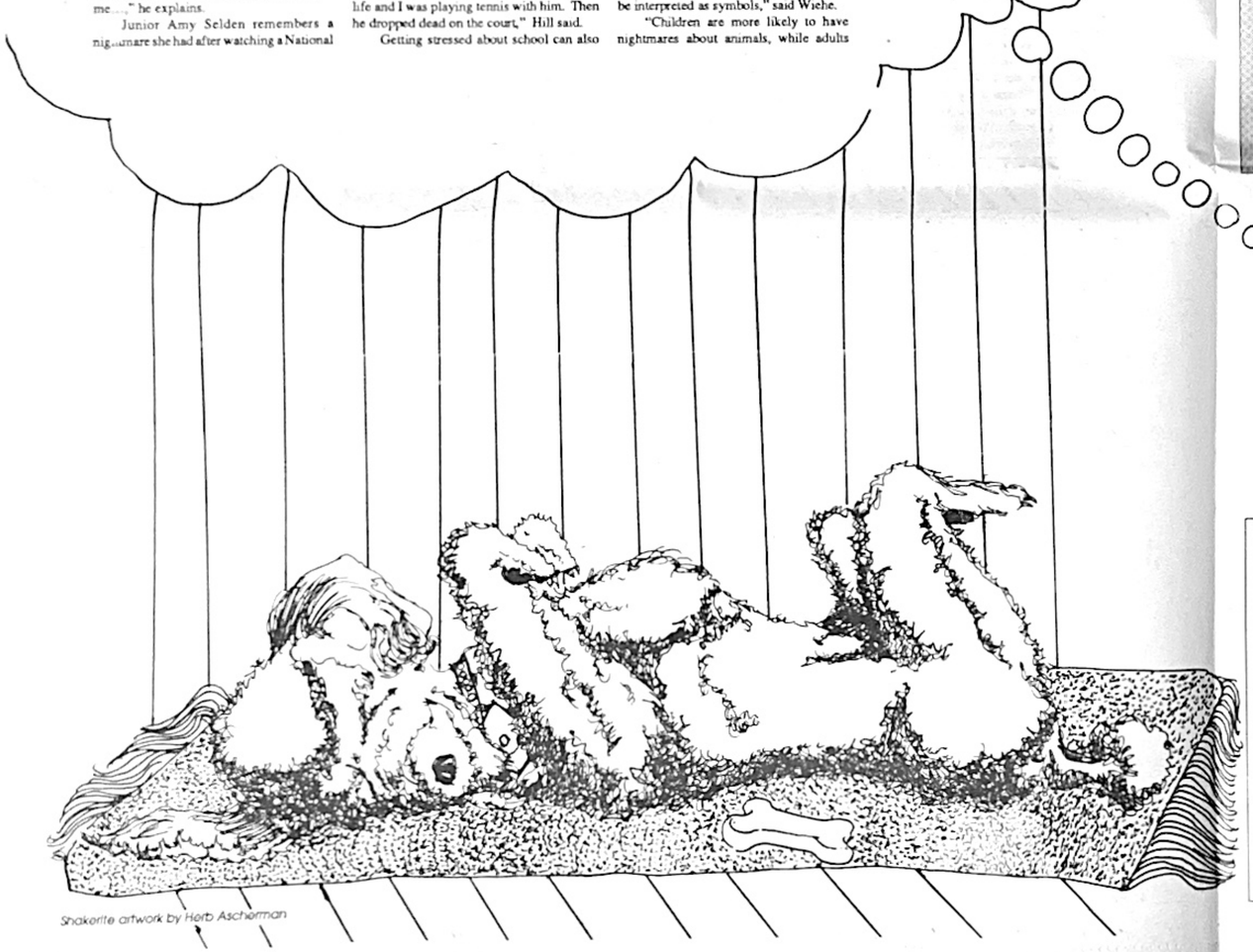
"It's not necessarily who is in the nightmare but more the setting, color, people's actions and dialogues which can be interpreted as symbols," said Wiehe.

"Children are more likely to have nightmares about animals, while adults usually have nightmares about situations. This is explained by the fact that you dream about things you are familiar with. You don't create something beyond what you know in your dreams," explains Wiehe.

Most students said that their nightmares are usually in color and always take place in a familiar environment such as school or home.

Dreams can also be recurring. Senior Bryce Dakin frequently dreams of coming to school and forgetting to put any clothes on.

So the next time you're being chased by polar bears or running around school without any clothes on, relax. It is only a nightmare.



Shakerite artwork by Herb Ascherman

From A to ZZZ: Bizarre sleeping habits, dreams perplex student

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporter

I woke up the other day convinced I was in third grade.

There I was, all set to get dressed, find my extremely light backpack full of completed busy work, grab my lunchbox and skip down to the corner to catch the school bus. I was looking forward to sitting at one of those elementary school desks with my name written on tape across the top of it and doing work that even then seemed easy. I couldn't wait to go to art class and have story time in the library, and best of all, recess. I was eagerly awaiting this day of bliss, when all of a sudden my mom walked in and told me that it was 7:28 and I had better get moving. Thrust from my dream world and into a less pleasant reality, I leaped from third grade to eleventh in under ten seconds and not too much later found myself sitting in trigonometry when I had recently been engaged in the happy business of long division.

Freud would probably say that I was subconsciously trying to avoid the daily stresses and fears of high school. I know better than that. There is nothing even remotely subsconscious about my desire to avoid high school stress. He might also say I longed to regress to the relative safety and happiness of my childhood. While there may be some truth to that, sleeping through Stress Management is certainly preferable to being tormented by a bunch of third graders because you are inept at kickball. Or perhaps Freud would believe that I nurtured a repressed obsession for my third grade teacher. I can assure you whatever feelings I have repressed towards teachers over the years have seldom been kind ones.

I do not hold entirely with any of these theories, but I have done some of my own thinking about dreams. My dreams tend to be very vivid—larger than life, technicolored and in stereo sound, as if my mind were an offshoot of MGM. I have friends, on the other hand, who dream in black and white. Why? Are their dream functions still stuck in the early 1930's? Will they some day be colorized? And why are dreams so hard to remember and bizarre?

I have a recurring dream about a locker room. I'm sure Freud would have a field day with that, but setting that aside, how does my sleepy mind continuously arrive at this place? I've never seen the locker room when I'm awake. To my knowledge, it doesn't exist and it disturbs me a bit to wonder about what kind of a weird mind would play these sort of games. We are all pretty much in control of our minds when we are awake. What happens to that control when we fall asleep? Suddenly we are split in two; the waking mind has little or no understanding of what the mind that created this dream was talking about.

Dreaming is only one aspect of the bizarre tricks our minds play on us when we are tired. Did you ever lie in bed, moments from sleep, and get the sensation that your bed is slowly spinning and tilting? Or what about that convulsion that overcomes your body when you're almost asleep and suddenly feel like you've missed a step walking down stairs?

I do not walk in my sleep, nor am I acquainted with anyone who does, but it has always intrigued me. Are actions limited to walking or could you catch up on some exercise in your sleep, too? What about distance—can you be counted as an illegal alien if you sleep-walk across an international border? Do you need a hall pass if you fall asleep in your English class and wake up in the science wing?

Falling asleep in class is another fascinating aspect of sleeping. It is, I think, an inborn talent. If, like me, you were one of those people who had difficulty being quiet during nap time in kindergarten, then falling asleep in class will probably never come naturally to you. On the other hand, there are people for whom falling asleep in class is easier than remembering where the class is. There is yet a third group of people for whom falling asleep in class is not a sign of boredom or exhaustion, but actually an art form. These people have honed their talent to such a fine level that they can fall soundly asleep at the beginning of the period while the teacher is still taking attendance and wake up minutes before the bell rings. The true sign of skill in this area is the ability to answer questions without waking up, a sort of reverse osmosis.

While I do not possess the ability to somnambulate or sleep with any regularity in class, I do talk in my sleep, and not just the incomprehensible mumbling of a casual sleep-talker either. On the contrary, I approach the subject with solemnity, and often the approximate verbosity of someone giving a college lecture. According to my sister, I have held long involved monologues about the importance of mice to the American economy and many equally fascinating topics. Since I have no control over my nighttime narrations, I am always afraid that I am someday going to fall asleep in strange company and say something incriminating. I guess I don't have to worry if I talk in my sleep about my dreams, though. Those don't make sense even to me.

Alarm clocks disturb REM stage

BY TIONA MARTIN
Staff Reporter

Everyone has them, but not everyone knows exactly what they are. Researchers have found that although they seem to go on for hours, on average, they actually last for seconds.

The very detailed mechanics of sleep remain a mystery, but some important information is known about dreams.

The book *Encylopedia of Dreams*, states that dreams take place in the period of sleep known as REM (Rapid Eye Movement). During the REM stage, the eyeball darts back and forth under the closed eyelid, following movement in the dream. According to authors, Anna Fomari, Emilio Rombaldini and Lynn Picknett, in their book "Endia of Dreams", an average of "peaks" during REM stage of These peaks are one dreams, ally awakening the fifth and last stage.

According to chologist Charles Morris, the subdreams depends of which stage of REM a person is in. For example, dreams involving childhood experiences occur usually during the earliest and deepest part of the sleep process. If a person is in one of the later stages of REM sleep, dreams will deal with recent events.

cyclope- there are f i v e t h e sleep when usu- after psy- G ject of

Dream analysts Brenneis and Cohen have found sex and age are also contributing factors in the determination of dreams. According to their study, males favor aggresive dreams whereas females dream largely in indoor settings. Children dream mostly about daily activities but also about scary animals.

Many people wake up with no recollection of their dreams. According to researchers, this is because the have awakened abruptly during an REM stage. They are jolted out of sleep perhaps by the shrill of an alarm clock. The unexpected sound drives away all memory of the dreams because of reminders of impending work for the upcoming day.

Some phsycologists say that dreams can have hidden meanings. According to Pomari, Rombaldini and Picknett, if one has fallen in a dream and they can't get up, it may indicate a loss of some kind, like love or money. A dream about flying over a sea means that the dreamer is very conceited and over-confident. Dreaming about death may have both good and bad interpretations. If one dreams about death, they may either be nervous and agitated, or they could be in good health and in the midst of financial improvements, they said.

Dreams may seem very simple, but according to researchers, a lot of thought and energy goes into their production. They are a part of our subconscious mind and and come to life every night as we sleep.

Abraham's 'Roxy' arouses interest

BY JILL PELAVIN
Spotlight Editor

She is popular, pretty and loves pink. Her hometown, Clyde, Ohio, is awaiting her return. She is Roxy Charmichael .

The return of Roxy was the talk of the town that week. No one is more anxious than the rebellious 15-year old Dinky Bossetti (Winona Ryder, "Heathers"). Dinky is adopted and determined Roxy is her natural mother. After all, both are rebellious, love M&M's and adore animals.

Intertwined with Roxy's return are the citizens of Clyde and their problems such as love, parenting and friendships. Dinky seems to have more problems than most.

Most teenagers can probably relate well with Dinky's problems. She has trouble communicating with her family, difficulties with her love life and does not trust anyone.

"Dinky lives by her own rules and gets caught up with fantasies and rebellion. In the end she learns people really do care," said director Jim Abrahams.

The setting effectively informs the audience of Roxy's popularity. We see the house where she grew up, hear the "Roxy" song and learn of her infatuations. We also see the backside of her model perfect body and radiant hair. This is rather ironic since ***we never see her face. During the movie it bothered me, but afterwards I realized if she had the slightest flaw, I would have*** been extremely disappointed. Many viewers agree they would have liked to see her face, but as the movie's motto says,"It's good to want things."

The movie dares to touch upon issues such as lesbianism and teenage pregnancy. Mixed with these serious matters, there is also humor, such as Dinky walking in on her parents making love in their carpet store.

Some of the scenes, however, are confusing. I am still perplexed with one in which the audience travels from the town of Clyde, to a swimming pool in which Roxy swims one lap nude in which we see her backside (sorry guys!).

Abrahams believes "Welcome Home Roxy Charmichael" is a unique movie, incorporating themes such as dreams, celebrity worship and growing up.

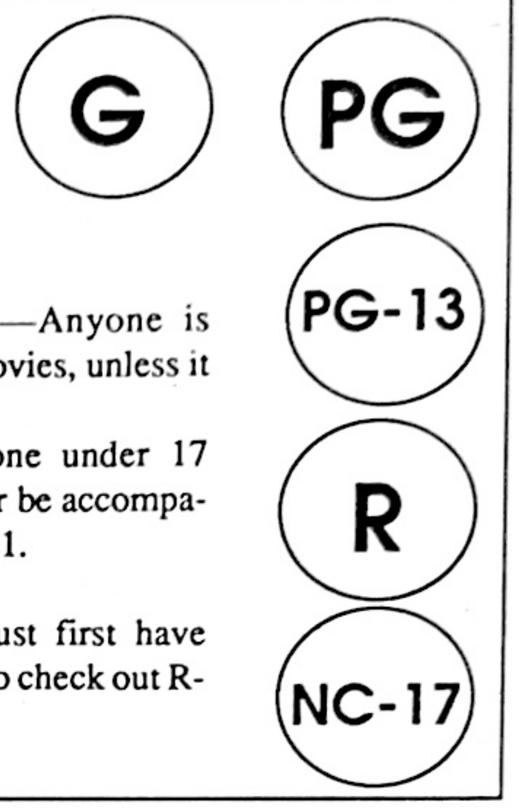
"The movie is unusual and off-beat. It violates a lot of movie making rules because it does not have the good guys/bad guys and typical car crash scenes," said Abrahams.

Although the movie is off-key, there are some typical movie-making techniques apparent with its "everything works out for the best" ending. Even though Roxy never returns to Clyde, the citizens resolve many of their own problems.

All in all, "Welcome Back Roxy Charmichael" is worth the trip even though Roxy's comeback turns out to be a fluke.

(out of five)

R-rated: Theaters have different admission policies for youth



Movie theaters claim children under 17 are not allowed into R-rated movies without an adult. Movie theaters certainly do not abide by this policy. Here are policies of some local theaters.

•**Cedar Center**—Viewer must be at least sixteen and present valid ID or parental permission is required.

•**Center-Mayfield**—Anyone is allowed into R-rated movies, unless it is NC-17.

•**Severance**—Anyone under 17 must present valid ID or be accompanied by someone over 21.

•**Video Stores**—Must first have permission by an adult to check out R-rated movies.

Compiled by Jeff Epstein

'Memphis Belle' bombs

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: " Memphis Belle" crew celebrates their successful return.

Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. (©1990)

BY KIM RATHBONE
Staff Reporter

Flying through black smoke with only one engine and the wheel locked was not unusual for the courageous crew of the Memphis Belle.

Set in May,1943, the audience follows the crew (led by Matthew Modine) of this B-17 bomber on their 25th and final mission to Bremen, Germany, where they must bomb a factory. Once they destroy their last target, they will be the first daylight bombing crew to successfully complete their tour of duty and return to America.

Although it is hard to believe, "Memphis Belle" is based on a true story. From losing an engine to landing the plane with only one wheel, somehow the crew all made it back alive with only one injured.

The photography and special effects add realism to the movie. The scenery and the angles from inside the plane makes one feel as if he or she were in the airplane.

Some of the scenes made the viewer cringe. In front of the Memphis Belle was Windy City, another fighter plane. The plane was hit in the engine and in a matter of seconds it exploded. Blood and fragments of the plane were spread on the windshield of the Memphis Belle's cockpit.

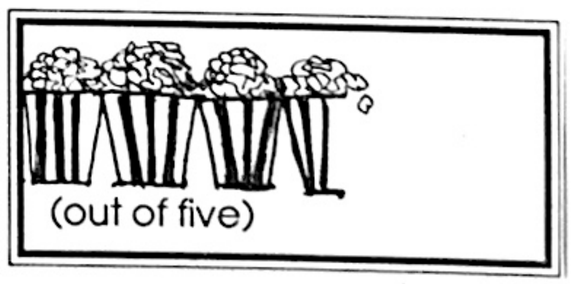
The storyline was often difficult to follow. The scenes switched from inside the plane back to Britain where the other crews and officers anxiously wait for the arrival of the Memphis Belle.

I sympathized with the crew as they reflected upon what was at home waiting for them. Many talked about sweethearts, future jobs and one read poetry about their expectations.

The music emphasizes the powerful scenes of the movie. An orchestrated version of "Amazing Grace" was played. This gave a feeling of sympathy for fellow Americans that fought for our country, hoping they would survive their mission. The music also successfully closed the storyline as the Memphis Belle landed after a long and arduous mission.

I was left with two thoughts at the end of the movie, one being overcome with a feeling of happiness for the crew's successful arrival, but also a feeling of sadness for the Americans who lost their lives fighting for the sake of our country.

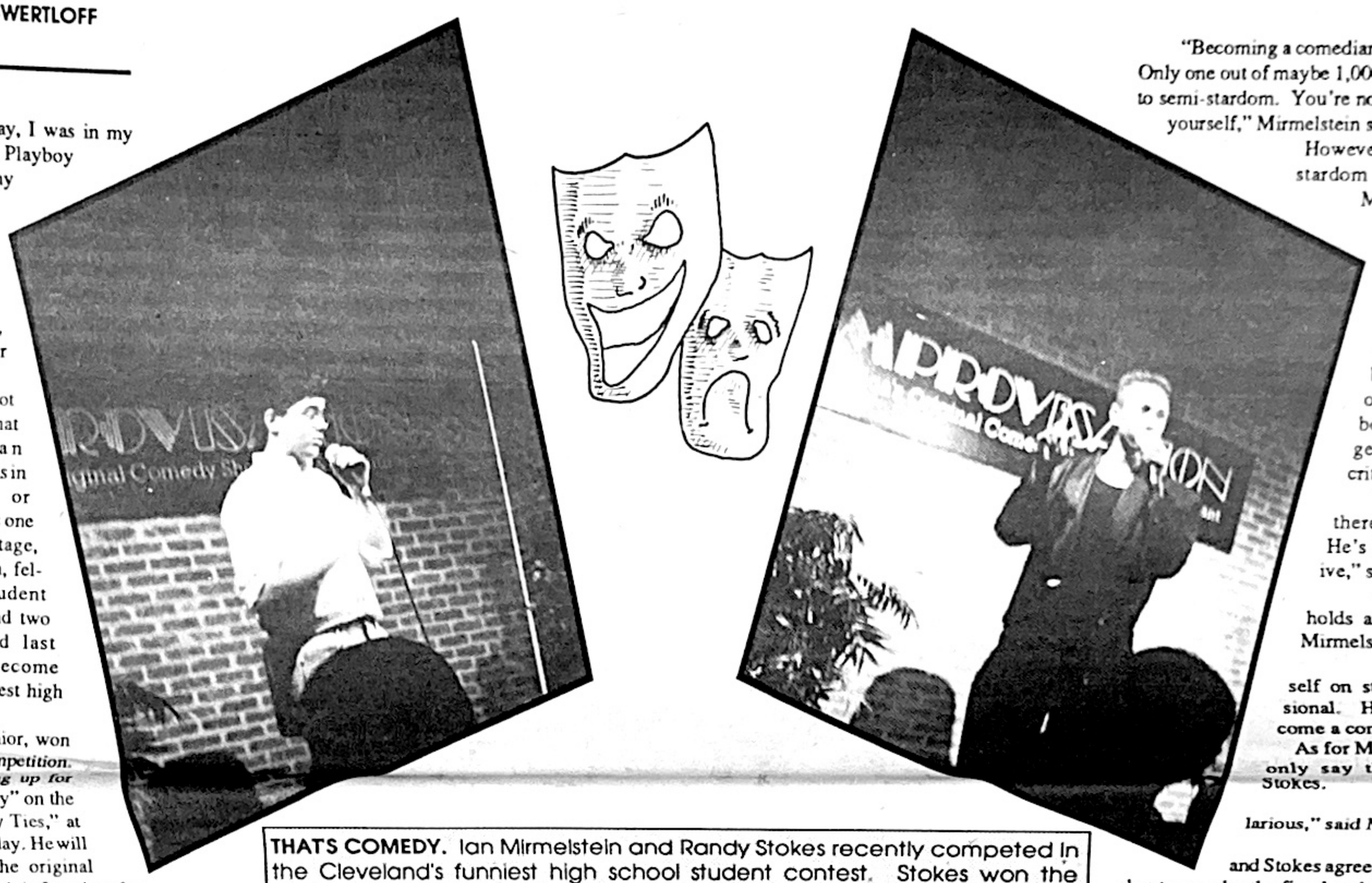
Again, I realized how traumatic it was for the people who risked their lives in order to protect our country.


(out of five)

ATTHE MOVIES

Stokes and Mirmelstein compete in Cleveland's funniest student contest

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF
Staff Reporter



THAT'S COMEDY. Ian Mirmelstein and Randy Stokes recently competed in the Cleveland's funniest high school student contest. Stokes won the contest. Stokes will be performing at Stouffers and then again in Los Angeles, California.
Photo by Jon Strange

The other day, I was in my room reading a Playboy magazine when my dad came in. He said, "Son, if you keep reading that stuff, you'll go blind."

And I said, "Dad, I'm over here!"

No, this is not a typical joke that sophomore Ian Mirmelstein cracks in the classroom or locker room. This one came from on stage, when Mirmelstein, fellow Shaker student Randy Stokes, and two others competed last Sunday to become Cleveland's funniest high school teenager.

Stokes, a senior, won this first annual competition. *He will be opening up for* Mark Price, "Skippy" on the T.V. show "Family Ties," at Stouffer's this Sunday. He will also perform at the original Improv comedy club in Los Angeles.

"I feel like a celebrity now. I have a name at the Improv. People will know that Randy Stokes is coming to perform," said Stokes.

The competition began two weeks ago, when Mirmelstein and Stokes were chosen as the two funniest comedians at Shaker Heights High School.

The two then competed against seven other high school comedians at Cleveland's Improv on Oct. 21. Mirmelstein and Stokes were chosen, along with two others as semi-finalists.

"I thought I did pretty well," said Mirmelstein. "I wasn't that nervous before I got up [on stage] because I focused myself. If you prepare well enough, things will come easy."

Stokes said that he felt the same.

"I really felt positive about my act. This is a big opportunity to help my acting-comedy career," said Stokes.

Mirmelstein's material focused on Jewish and family life. In the beginning of his act, for example, he placed a dollar on a chair and vowed not to pick it up for the next five minutes. Though this brought up a typical stereotype of Jewish people, Mirmelstein said it was not intended as a put-down.

"I'm just trying to make people laugh. Besides, it is always best to talk about things that you know the most about!" Mirmelstein said.

In the same fashion, Stokes' material was about black life. Singing about the slaves coming to the new world via the "slaveboat" (to the tune of the "Loveboat" theme song,) and talking about a black person driving down South reading his Malcolm X guide, Stokes insisted his jokes were about the "comedy of life."

Mirmelstein looks up to comedians Steven Wright and Jackie Mason for their delivery and focus of material. Stokes, however, does not lean towards any particular comedian.

"I'm not like Eddy Murphy or Richard Pryor. I've got a whole different style of presentation," Stokes said.

However, Stokes does admire Charlie Chaplin.

"He was the founder of comedy. He was the first person to make people laugh, and he did his whole act nonverbally," said Stokes.

Stokes has had previous experience. He has been on stage for more than seven years.

Beginning in the fourth grade, Stokes entered a talent show, mainly doing impersonations. At the high school, he was in Speech and Debate Club and is currently in Senior Ensemble.

"Acting and comedy will always be my first love. I am an entertainer, and I want to hear the laughter from the people and make them feel good," said Stokes.

Stokes said that the contest is important to his career. However, Mirmelstein, also an actor, disagreed, saying that winning would not boost his chances of becoming a comedian.

"Becoming a comedian can only be a dream. Only one out of maybe 1,000 comedians makes it to semi-stardom. You're not being realistic with yourself," Mirmelstein said..

However, if the chance of stardom should ever arise, Mirmelstein said that he would take it and run.

During the past few weeks, Stokes and Mirmelstein have been helping each other. They have been practicing together and sharing criticism.

"Ian and I were there for each other. He's been very supportive," said Stokes.

Stokes said he holds a lot of respect for Mirmelstein.

"He handles himself on stage like a professional. He could easily become a comic," Stokes said.

As for Mirmelstein, he could only say three words about Stokes.

"He's utterly hilarious," said Mirmelstein.

Both Mirmelstein and Stokes agree about the best thing about comedy: the first laugh.

"That's why I am so concerned about making people laugh. Each person has a different interpretation of my act. . .so I use material that people can relate to," Stokes said.

When asked to define humor, Stokes paused and said, "[Humor] is bringing enlightenment to other's lives by bringing up something that makes them feel uncomfortable, and relieving it through comedy."

To Mirmelstein, comedy is essentially embarassing oneself for the sake of others.

"It is the act of going up on stage and making a fool of yourself just to get a laugh," said Mirmelstein.

Miemelstein promises he will enter next year because this debut has helped him.

"Not only does it make me more comfortable with myself as a comedian, it also builds up my confidence involving other areas, such as school work and sports," Mirmelstein said.

"Hard work pays off. Even if you didn't win, there were no losers. The three of us were all finalists. Congratulations, Randy," said

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Trick or treat: Not just for candy anymore

BY LESLY BLANTON
Staff Reporter

On Halloween night a crowd of giggling children hover around a bowl filled with goodies, but one Papa Smurf is not like the rest. This trick or treater is six feet tall, 17 years old and takes calculus when he is not out getting candy. Papa Smurf is just one of many students in high school who go out Halloween night and celebrate with younger children.

Many people in high school have given up trick or treating. By the time students are in their mid-teens students say they do not feel right about receiving the free candy.

"Seventh or 8th grade was my last year(trick or treating). I feel like I'm too old,"said freshman Dorrian Thornton.

There are some high school students who dress up and trick or treat. Some of these students say they go out because they enjoy the company.

"I trick or treat to be with friends," said sophomore Robyn Panier.

Other students say they go out forthe thrill of Halloween or for the fright they give other trick-or-treaters.

"I don't go out for the candy. I hate candy. I go out mainly to scare kids," said junior Greg Stockdale.

Then there are the students who go trick-or-treating for the same reasons as the elementary school students—the goodies.

"I [go out trick or treating] because I want some candy and it's fun. Last year I went up to houses and took the whole bowl of candy," said junior Brain Bodnar.

There are different opinions about students in high school trick-or-treating. Some people feel older teenagers should not be asking for candy.

"I don't give people from the high school candy because I think that it's immature. There's a time for everyone to grow up," Thornton said.

Other students feel the older trick-or-treaters should be left alone with their fun.

"I don't think anyone should stop (trick or treating) as long as they have fun doing it," said freshman Stephanie Hairston.

Whether others approve or not, students who go out on Halloween will continue until they feel like stopping.

"I'll end (trick or treating) when I'm in my senior year in college," said Bodnar.

Students seek scare at haunted houses

BY MIKE GIANNELLI
Staff Reporter

It was pitch black. He cautiously walked through the narrow passage. Something brushed his shoulder. He wheeled around and to his horror saw the ghastly remains of what had once been human, its hand still resting gently on his shoulder.

Yes, it's haunted house season. Live rats, harrowing mazes, and Jason and Freddie Krueger replicas have become selling points for these terrifying attractions. But why do Shaker students enjoy haunted houses?

"To live fulfilled, you have to be scared," said freshman Armand Gilliam.

However, there are reasons other than getting scared for going to a haunted house, according to Shaker students.

"If you're with a cute guy who you can cuddle up with it's fun," said junior Casie Lovinger.

"Girls get scared and jump on you," agreed senior Jamal Sims.

Sophomore Monica Caterino also said that she enjoyed going to a haunted house.

"It was really spooky, and it was fun to watch my friend cry," said Caterino.

Junior Ron Lee goes to haunted houses "to beat up the ghosts."

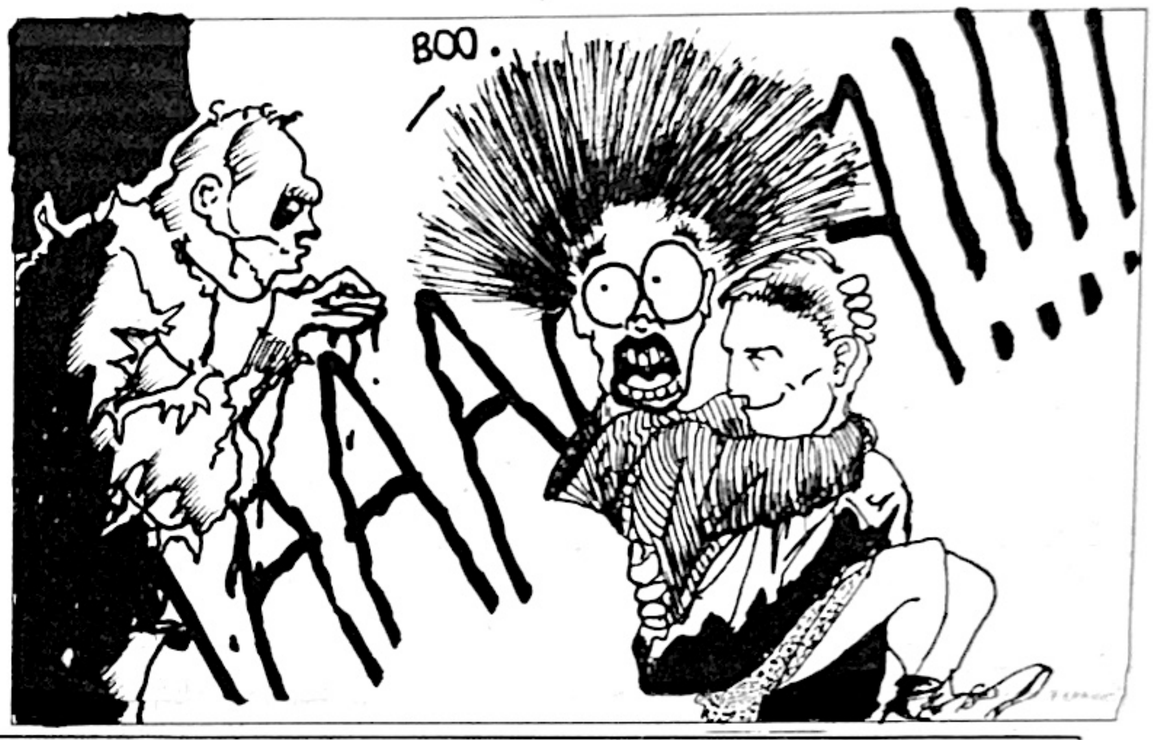
Sophomore Damon Lyons said he goes to yell obscene words at the creatures. Lyons added that zombies are his favorite type of monster because they are the most realistic.

As much fun as haunted houses can be, sometimes the excitement is just too much.

Senior Matt Cicero recalled getting kicked out at his first haunted house for accidentally punching one of the guys who worked there.

At Briggs Haunted Barn, "someone once shoved one of our actors through a wall," said Bonnie Zeiger, a volunteer there.

So for whatever reasons you go to haunted houses, it's that season again. Hopefully, you won't get kicked out, but that beats not making it at all.



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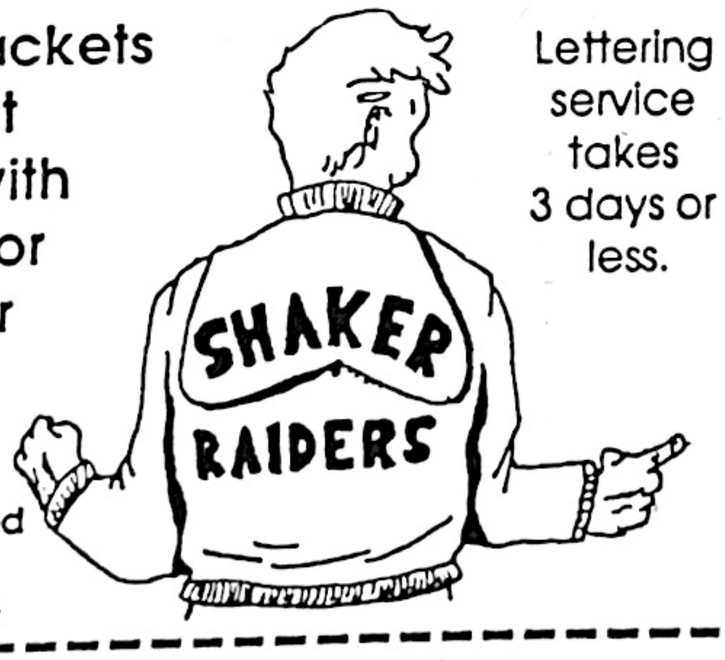

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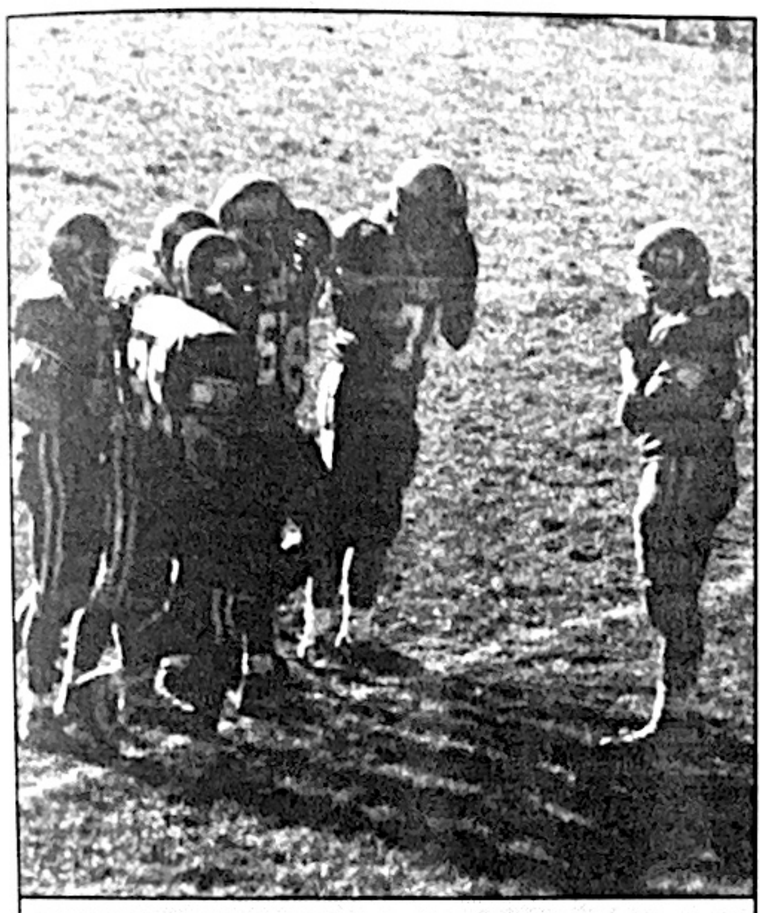
Womens tennis, field hockey teams finish strong seasons; freshman football wins LEL title, varsity football struggles



CALLING THE PLAYS. Junior quarterback Jon Perkins stands over his line during the Raider's 55-12 loss to Shaw two weeks ago. The team finished with a 0–10 record. *PHOTO BY JON WOODS*

SHUT OUT

The varsity football season came to an end last Friday as the team fell 44–6 to Trinity.

"I expected to play 10 games, that's all, and to get better towards the end," Leimsieder said, in reference to pre-season expectations.

The team consists of about 35 sophomores, juniors and seniors. There is no junior varsity because of the small number of players. Some players feel this is hurting teammates that don't get a lot of action in the varsity games.

"The guys that don't get a chance to play on varsity might not be able to improve," sophomore Jack Shelley said.

Leimseider feels optimistic because the eighth grade and freshman programs are large in number and had good seasons.

"Winning is contagious, and I expect to see a better turnout next season," Leimseider said.

The coach also said that the program will improve with the experience of the present players. He is going to start an off season weight training program.

"We can only improve by working harder," Leimseider said.

AMICABLE AT LAST

The season came to an end for the 8–5 field hockey team with a 3–1 loss to Western Reserve Academy.

The team has been working hard all season. It lost a state tournament game 1–0 to Ottawa Hills in Toledo last Thursday.

According to team members there were disagreements among teammates. The team put their troubles behind and went on to have a successful season.

"We always played hard," one team member said. "We didn't have as great a team compared to past seasons, but we did better than I thought we would," added the player. Other team members said the season was a disappointment.

"We didn't get as far as we wanted to," sophomore Jessica Morton said. "We were better than the other team [Ottawa Hills]," she added.

The team bonded together as the season progressed by having team dinners and " secret friends" in effort to unify the team.

"We went out together and became good friends," Morton said.

Though the team finished with an 8–5 record, they were not concerned with wins and losses.

"We didn't care about our record, " said Morton, " it helped us not get down on each other after losing a game."

"I think the team will be great in the future. We have a lot of young talent, especially the freshmen on the varsity team," said senior Meredith Kelly.

According to Morton the team suffered from the lack of senior members. There were 11 on the squad last year; this season, only six.

TAKING A TITLE

Winning their seventh straight league title, the Red Raider girls tennis team continued to dominate the LEL this year. The squad compiled a 6–0 league record and went 11–6 overall.

Despite its undefeated record in the LEL, the team found itself in a showdown with an undefeated Heights team for the LEL crown.

Shaker was able to take the match with winning performances by first single sophomore Heidi Jacobson, the first doubles team of seniors Shana Litt and Sarah Kirchner, and the second doubles team of sophomore Cyrena LeVine and senior Cathy Wilkoff.

Head coach Al Slawson said that the loss of seniors will hurt the team next year.

"The loss of key seniors Wilkoff and Kirchner will make repeating as champs much tougher," Slawson said. "I am not as optimistic about next year as I was about this year, but if we work hard over the off-season, I believe we will be okay."

Slawson also said that the keys to remaining champions are the continuation of excellent play from sophomores Jacobson, LeVine and Kim Weisman, as well as the quality of incoming freshmen.

The team of Heidi Jacobson and Cathy Wilkoff represented Shaker in the state tournament. Jacobson and Wilkoff took second in sectional play and finished sixth at the district competition, only to miss states by one place.

A RAY OF HOPE

Last Friday, the varsity football team dropped their final game to Trinity 44-8. It gave the team a dismal 0-10 record for the season. The freshman football team provided some hope for the future with a 5-2 season and an LEL title.

With a 14-0 drubbing of Shaw, the Raiders freshman team captured the LEL title.

Out of the gate things didn't look good for the team as it lost two of it's first three games to Trinity and Valley Forge.

"The main reason for the slow start was injuries to key individuals," head coach Tom Morgan said. "Once we got them back and the offensive line gelled, we came together as a team. "

The season took a turn for the better when the team travelled to Heights and captured an LEL victory.

The season still came down to the showdown with Shaw that would decide the LEL championship.

After a Brent Urcheck interception in Shaw territory Shaker gambled on a fourth and fifteen and scored as quaterback Brian Frew found Greg Taylor on a down and out pattern. He raced 45 yards untouched for a touchdown . The conversion failed, and Shaker led 6-0 at halftime.

The ball went back and forth in the third quarter and Shaker controlled the ball most of the fourth quarter behind the running of Deron Anderson, Dwight Ellis and Jamar Williams. With three minutes left Williams plunged in from inside the five yard-line and Shaker led 12-0 . This time the conversion was good and Shaker had a 14-0 victory and the L.E.L. title.

"The most important thing is that these kids have started a winning tradition that will hopefully carry on to the varsity level," Morgan said. "This group of kids learned how to win which is important."

NOT SO FAST

The Red Raider mens cross country team finished the season tied with Heights for fourth place in the LEL with a record of 2-5, with victories against Heights and Parma.

Shaker finished eighth at the district tournament. Senior Keith Long finished fifth at districts and will represent Shaker at the regional tournament.

Coach Charles Richard believes that if the mens team is to perform at a higher level, it will take dedication during the offseason and maturation. Richard emphasized the importance of time in relation to the teams performance.

"If they work hard, they have the talent to be a good team," Long said.

Long was the only senior on the the team this year, along with three juniors, one sophomore, and three freshman.

—COMPILED FROM STAFF REPORTS—

Rude cheers, strong support make Raider fans unique

THE SPORTS COLUMN

BY BRIAN RESNIK
Sports Editor

Every professional sports team claims that its fans are the best in the world. After sitting (standing, actually) through last Thursday's sectional soccer championship against Walsh Jesuit, I think that Shaker can make a big case for our fans.

Despite the fact that Walsh is out in some rural Ohio cow-town just off Route 303, about 100 Raider fans showed up for the game.

Despite the great turnout, Walsh outnumbered us due to their home field advantage. Despite this, we made up for it with volume and interesting people.

Walsh's fans were plain boring. One fan wore an Indian headdress (their nickname is the Warriors). Besides him, though, they all looked the same.

Throughout the game, Walsh's fans blew large, yellow plastic horns of some sort. Nonstop. I was about ready to ram the horns down their mouths.

It seemed like Walsh had a cheer for every occasion. Sort of like a greeting card. They must learn them in school or something (along with learning the most effective ways to take steroids–did you see the size of some of those guys?). They even knew what to say when they disagreed with the fashion statement made by one Raider fan's boots.

Shaker fought back with our usual crude cheers. We didn't have as many, but the ones that we had were louder and better.

The weather was certainly not ideal for soccer. It was raining, windy and cold. By halftime, I couldn't feel my face, hands or toes.

Shaker fans have a tendency to support our teams in big games. Last year's sectional basketball game against Saint Joseph's in Akron also drew many fans. They had the same interesting motif as all Raider crowds and were just as loud.

In the end, Shaker clearly had the superior cheering section.

Oh, by the way, the soccer team lost 1–0, finishing the best season in Shaker history at 13–1–5.

Mens soccer has record season

Walsh hands Raiders first loss in sectional final

BY BRIAN RESNIK
Sports Editor

The Raider mens soccer team lost 1–0 to Walsh Jesuit High School in the sectional championship last Thursday. The loss ended the team's season with a 13–1–5 record, the best in Shaker's history.

Walsh was ranked number one in the state going in to the sectional final against the Raiders. Shaker was not in the top 10. According to junior midfielder Nathan Wisneski, the squad was looking forward to the challenge.

"It's really good to play the number one team in the state," Wisneski said. "It gives you a chance to see how good you really are."

The two teams played to a stalemate in the first half. Heading to the locker room, the Raiders were anticipating the advantage of a strong wind at their back. However, they returned from the locker room to find that the wind had died, according to first year head coach Ernest Welsch.

"I felt that when we came out of halftime with the wind that we could win, because it was so severe," Welsch said. "It just died."

Early in the second half, Walsh scored the only goal of the game, as the ball was headed into the goal, past senior goal keeper Jon Woods. For the first time in the game, the wet, muddy field had an effect.

"I slipped," Woods said. "On a dry field, I would have had that ball easily."

According to team members, the weather did have an effect on the game.

"I usually kick the ball 60 to 70 yards," Woods said. "With the wind, the ball hung up at about 40 yards."

According to senior midfielder Chris Svec, the wind that was at Walsh's back throughout the first half died down when the teams switched sides at the half.

Many members of the squad said that a game of such magnitude should be played at a neutral site.

"They had a lot of fans," sophomore midfielder Kirk Friedrich said. "It always helps to play on your homefield."

The team met Walsh last year, also as an underdog and won the game. According to some team members, Walsh was out for revenge.

"They were a little vengeful," junior defenseman Caleb Willis said. "They wanted to get us back for last year."

Some team members said that last year's victory helped to build their confidence going in to the game.

"We knew we had a chance to win, because we won last year," junior forward Matt Fader said. " Last year, our record wasn't as good."

The game with Walsh was set up when Shaker won a dramatic 5-4 shootout victory over North Royalton, to win 1–0 just days before. This win over a higher ranked team gave the Raiders confidence for the game with Walsh, but may have also drained them emotionally.

Woods said that the game may have taken something out of the team.

"We all hit a peak against North Royalton where we were really ready to play," Woods said. "It is hard to get back up."

Friedrich said that the game gave the Raiders more confidence for Walsh.

"After North Royalton, we had higher hopes to win because we were the underdogs there," Friedrich said.

Fader agrees.

"We weren't cocky, but we were more sure that we could win," he said.

Welsch said that a letdown can not be blamed for the loss to Walsh.

"There are so many variables in what motivates a player," Welsh said. "There may have been some kind of letdown, but I didn't notice it. There are too many variables to say that that is why we lost."

Looking back on the season, the team had only good things to say.

"We trained harder than ever before," Fader said. "Our record shows that."

Willis also felt good about the season.

"We did very well," he said. "We have a great coach and are skilled in soccer."

The team won the Eastern Suburban Conference with a 5–0–2 record.

Willis, Friedrich and senior defender Ben Stefanski were named to the all-league first team, and Svec was second team. Sophomore Jamie Porras, senior Clark Whitely and Wisneski were honorable mention. Stefanski was also league [illegible] named to the all-Greater Cleveland team.

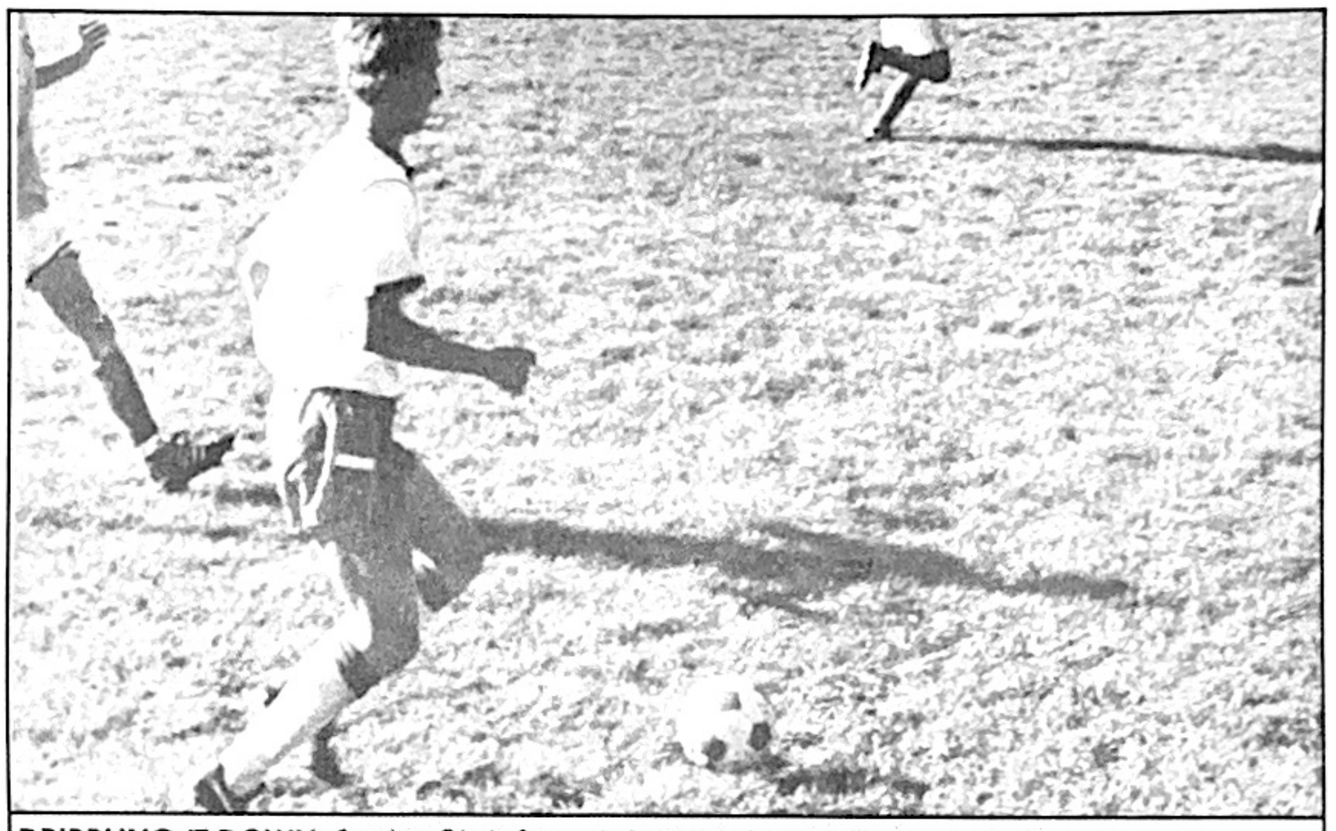
Woods' 10 shutouts and .53 goals against ratio were also school records.

Next year, the team will lose seniors Matt Cicero, Oliver Guiness, John Homans, David Porras, Stefanski, Svec, Whitely, Jim Woodring and Woods but players remain optimistic.

"We are going to be amazing, unstoppable," Fader said. "We have a great bench and we are getting stronger."

Welsch said that the players efforts would dictate their success next year.

It depends on how hard the kids work," Welsch said. "If they put out effort, we can be as good or better than this year."



DRIBBLING IT DOWN. Senior Chris Svec takes the ball downfieldduring a recent soccer game. The team finished with a record of 13–1–5. Svec was selected to the Eastern Suburban Conference all-league second team. e team's record was the best in Shaker history. *PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GRISTMILL*

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